
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6407

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSAULT OF A LIQUOR CONTROL AGENT.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes assault of a liquor control agent a class C felony (punishable by one to 10 years in prison, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both), the same penalty as for assault of public safety, emergency medical, and public transit personnel, among others. A person commits this crime by assaulting a reasonably identifiable liquor control agent performing his or her duties, with intent to prevent the agent from performing them, by doing any of the following to the agent:

1. causing injury;
2. throwing objects capable of causing harm;
3. using tear gas, mace, or a similar harmful agent;
4. throwing paint, dye, or any other offensive substance; or
5. throwing bodily fluid, such as feces, blood, or saliva.

Current law does not have the specific crime of assault of a liquor control agent. Generally, assaults are punishable, depending on the conduct, by penalties ranging from a class A misdemeanor (up to one year in prison, a fine of up to \$2,000, or both) to a class A felony (punishable by 10 to 25 years in prison, a fine of up to \$20,000, or both).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Liquor Control Agents

Department of Consumer Protection liquor control agents conduct

investigations and enforce the civil and licensing portions of the Liquor Control Act. In addition, agents provide training and assistance to local and state police officers on criminal aspects of liquor law enforcement.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 4 (03/12/2013)